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Excerpts

Criminals At Large

By NEWGATE CALENDAR

Latest in the paperback espionage sweepstakes series: MAX GALAN: HUNTER OF MEN by C.H. Guenter (Pinnacle, \$1.25). This is the first in a projected series. The ingredients include the Mafia, a hit man, microfilm stolen from the C.I.A., a safecracking job on a safe that can't be cracked. And Max Galan, the hunter of men. The ingredients are familiar enough, the writing is routine enough, and there is absolutely nothing here to distinguish the book from so many others along this line.

Some fine reissues are available this month. Among espionage writers, there are such masters as Len Deighton and Victor Canning—the former with SPY STORY (Pocket, \$1.95), the latter with THE LIMBO LINE (Award, \$1.50).

The Deighton, published not long ago, has to do with nuclear subs, a Russian admiral and British and American intelligence. A bubbling mixture. Canning's book also has Russians, who are attempting to get a refugee ballerina back. She is set up so that British intelligence can wipe out the Russians' spy network.